

*REMARKS*

In response to the Office Action mailed January 7, 2005, Applicant amends his application and requests reconsideration. In this Amendment, claims 1 and 2 are cancelled leaving claims 3-10 pending.

The Office Action indicated that claims 5-10 are allowable if rewritten in independent form. In this Amendment, claims 5 and 8 are rewritten in independent form and claims 6, 7, 9, and 10 depend from those two newly independent claims. Some of the language of the claims is clarified, consistent with the amendment made to claim 3, described below, so that the language of the claims is the same throughout all of the claims now presented. As discussed below, the changes made in dependent claims 6 and 9 do not affect the allowability of claims 5 and 8. Therefore, claims 5-10 should be immediately allowed and there is no further comment on those claims.

In addition to the amendment discussed above, in this Amendment claim 3 is rewritten in independent form, retaining its original claim number. Claim 4 is amended to depend from independent claim 3. In rewriting claim 3 in independent form, the description of the engagement of the first and second sections of the first support is slightly changed. The change is intended to make clear the telescoping arrangement of the first and second sections of the first support. The common meaning of the word "telescope" in the present context is "to slide or pass one within another like the cylindrical sections of a hand telescope." The telescoping arrangement of the first support of the egg yolk separator in the embodiment described in the patent application is most clearly illustrated in Figures 1-3. That disclosure fully supports the clarification made at claim 3.

In the Office Action mailed January 7, claims 1-4 were rejected as anticipated by Heisner et al. (U.S. Patent 1,463,394, hereinafter Heisner). This rejection is respectfully traversed as to claims 3 and 4 presented in this Amendment.

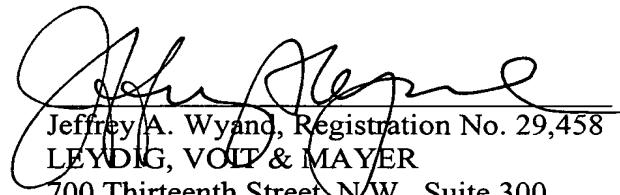
Applicant readily agrees that the strainer support described by Heisner includes an arm 13 of variable length, the length of that arm being adjustable by two sliding elements, an extension arm 20 that can be moved and clamped in place relative to a fixed part of the arm 13. It cannot reasonably be asserted that the two elements of the arm 13 that slide with respect to each other in Heisner telescope as in the first support of the egg yolk strainer of claim 3. A review of the many patents cited in the first Office Action shows that none of those references, nor any of the newly cited references, discloses or suggests

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a telescoping support as in the egg yolk strainer of claim 3. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of amended claims 3 and 4 are respectfully requested.

Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance with respect to all pending claims, namely claims 3-10, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAW/ves